

JEWISH STUDIES
COURSES AT
HARVARD UNIVERSITY



2019-2020
CENTER FOR
JEWISH STUDIES

This publication is for informational purposes only. The listing of a course in this booklet does not necessarily imply endorsement by the Center for Jewish Studies, nor does the absence of a course necessarily imply the lack of endorsement. The goal of this publication is to aid the process of course selection by students interested in Jewish studies, and we apologize for inadvertent inclusions and exclusions.

Course listings as of August 27, 2019. Course offerings and times may change. Please check the Website of the Registrar's Office of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences for updated information. <https://courses.my.harvard.edu>

***We expect substantial changes to course listings for Spring 2020.**

FACULTY OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

FALL SEMESTER

FRESHMAN SEMINARS

**FRSEMR 62U ZOMBIES AND SPIRITS, GHOSTS AND GHOULS:
INTERACTIONS BETWEEN THE LIVING AND THE DEAD**

Class Number: 16873 Course ID: 212697

Fall 2019

Shaye Cohen

Th 9:45am-11:45am

Virtually all the cultures and religions of the world, from ancient to contemporary times, have teachings and rituals about death. In this seminar we will deal with a subset of this very large topic, namely, the relationship of the living and the dead. The dead are often depicted as still-living in some way and still in communication with us and our world. Are they friendly or hostile? Beneficent or malevolent? Think “undead” and “zombie” versus “saint” and “angel.” In this course we will look at some of the myriad ways that religions and cultures conceive of the relationship of the living with the dead. We the living care for the dying and the dead, and hope that the dead will care for us, but how this works exactly is the subject of much speculation. American secular culture, at least in its cinematic expression, has a vigorous belief in the afterlife, especially in having denizens of the afterlife, in the form of zombies, ghosts, and poltergeists, intrude on the world of the living. In our seminar we will survey this rich set of themes as expressed in literature, art, music, cinema, and philosophy.

Course Notes: There will be a required field trip to Mount Auburn Cemetery in Cambridge, date to be decided.

Course Requirements: Course open to Freshman Students Only

***We expect substantial changes to course listings for Spring 2020**

GENERAL EDUCATION

GENED 1118 THE HOLOCAUST

Class Number: 18442 Course ID: 212918

Fall 2019

Kevin Madigan

TTh 10:30am-11:45am

Who is responsible for genocide? Through the lens of the Holocaust – perhaps the most-studied genocide of the modern era – we will grapple with the issues of good and evil, blame and responsibility, duty and dissent as they pertain to violence enacted at the personal and state levels. What is the responsibility of “citizens and citizen leaders” in the face of local and global crises brought on by genocide, refugee catastrophes, terror, neo-fascism, etc.? And how do we make meaning out of what seems senseless? The course will address the historical background and context of the Holocaust, competing theories about who was responsible and why, and representations of the Holocaust in film and literature.

Course Notes: This course is open to undergraduate students only.

Related Sections: Discussion TBA

BIBLICAL/ANCIENT NEAR EAST

ANE 120A INTRODUCTION TO THE HEBREW BIBLE/OLD TESTAMENT 1:

PENTATEUCH AND FORMER PROPHETS

Class Number: 22377 Course ID: 118849

Fall 2019

Andrew Teeter

TTh 10:30am-11:45am

A critical introduction to the literature and theology of the Hebrew Bible, considered in light of the historical contexts of its formation and the interpretive contexts of its reception within Judaism and Christianity. The course, the first part of a divisible, year-long sequence, will focus on the major biblical narrative traditions, the Pentateuch and Former Prophets.

Course Notes: Offered jointly with the Divinity School as 1102.

***We expect substantial changes to course listings for Spring 2020**

HDS 1306 DEUTERONOMY

Class Number: 19241 Course ID: 103691

Fall 2019

Andrew Teeter

T 3:00pm-5:00pm

A critical and exegetical study of Book of Deuteronomy, based on a close reading of the text in Hebrew. Special attention given to large-scale compositional strategies and principles of literary organization, to analogical patterns, to inner-scriptural relationships, and to the nature and function of allusion within this book. *Prerequisite: Ability to read Classical Hebrew.*

CLASSICAL AND MEDIEVAL JEWISH LITERATURE, HISTORY, AND CULTURE

COMPLIT 157 FROM TYPE TO SELF IN THE MIDDLE AGES

Class Number: 16463 Course ID: 112654

Fall 2019

Luis Giron Negron

MWF 9:00am-10:15am

It has been argued that the poetic “I” in premodern literatures is not a vehicle for self-representation, but an archetype of the human. The course will examine this thesis against the rise of autobiographical writing in medieval and early modern Europe. Readings include spiritual autobiographies (Augustine, Kempe, Teresa of Ávila), letter collections, maqama literature, troubadour lyric, Hispano-Jewish poetry, pilgrimage narratives, medieval allegories, Dante and the picaresque novel. Theoretical perspectives by Spitzer, Lejeune, Zumthor and DeCerteau.

Course Notes: This course counts for the Romance Studies track in the Department of Romance Languages and Literatures.

Jointly Offered with: Harvard Divinity School as HDS 3723

JEWISHST 155 COVENANT, CONVERSION, AND INTERMARRIAGE

Class Number: 19101 Course ID: 213337

Fall 2019

Shaye Cohen

W 9:00am-11:45am

The theme of this course is the boundary between Jews and gentiles in antiquity.

We examine some Jewish conceptions of the self (who or what is Israel?), instances of conversion to Judaism (proselytes), conversion from Judaism (apostasy), marriage between Jews and non-Jews, and the offspring of intermarriage. Readings from: the Tanakh, the apocrypha, Qumran scrolls, New Testament, Josephus, and rabbinic literature. All readings done in translation. Final research paper. The course is open for credit for undergraduates and graduates.
Jointly Offered with: Harvard Divinity School as HDS 3090

MODERN JEWISH LITERATURE, HISTORY, AND CULTURE

HIST 140 A GLOBAL HISTORY OF MODERN JEWISH MIGRATION

Class Number: 16177 Course ID: 212657

Fall 2019

Rebecca Kobrin

W 3:45pm-5:45pm

The objective of this course is to explore the history of Jewish migration in various regions since 1800. It also aims to ask the underlying question about the comparative study of Jewish life. Does comparative analysis help one think more critically about social groups, such as Jews? Does a comparative view of Jewish migration and adaptation help us understand the social processes of migration and acculturation more fully? What can the history of Jewish migration tell us about the larger phenomenon of global movements and nation states in the last two centuries?

HIST 1954 JEWS AND THE CITY: AN INTRODUCTION TO MODERN

JEWISH URBAN HISTORY

Class Number: 16197 Course ID: 212675

Fall 2019

Rebecca Kobrin

W 12:45pm-2:45pm

Over the course of the nineteenth century, millions of Jews moved to cities scattered throughout the world. This mass urbanization not only created new demographic centers of world Jewry, but also fundamentally transformed Jewish political and cultural life. In this course, we shall analyze primary and secondary sources to explore the Jewish encounter with the city. The underlying goal is to consider how comparative analysis helps one think more critically about social groups, such as Jews, or social formations, such as cities. Does a compar-

ative view of Jewish urbanization help one understand this phenomenon better?

JEWISHST 160 BERLIN: GERMAN CAPITAL, JEWISH CENTER

Class Number: 22100 Course ID: 213605

Fall 2019

Rachel Seelig

T 9:00am-11:00am

When the Nazis took power in Germany in 1933, they vilified Berlin as a haven for “rootless cosmopolitans,” a catchall for immigrants, communists, and Jews. What made the German capital seem so Jewish? Who were Berlin’s Jews, where did they come from, and how did they contribute to the city’s cosmopolitan identity? In this course, we will look at the rise of Berlin as a major hub of German-Jewish, Hebrew and Yiddish culture during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, the decline of Jewish culture under the Nazi Regime, and its revival since German reunification in 1990. Now that Berlin is home to many Jews from the former Soviet Union and Israel, has the dynamic Jewish culture of the early twentieth century reemerged? To what extent do the threats that once faced Berlin’s Jewish population persist today? We will examine a wide range of literary texts translated from German, Hebrew and Yiddish alongside visual art and film.

Course Notes: Course instructor - Prof. Rachel Seelig

Class Notes: Instructor - Prof. Rachel Seelig

SOCIOL 1120 HUMAN RIGHTS IN ISRAEL AND THE UNITED STATES

Class Number: 14985 Course ID: 207866

Fall 2019

Tally Amir

M 12:00pm-2:45pm

“Human rights” has become a ubiquitous concept around the world. It is used to justify, legitimize, and critique policies, practices, and laws. Despite the evolution of “human rights” over the last half-century in both international and domestic law, the content and impact of the concept remains unclear. This seminar will address key issues in contemporary human rights theory and practice through a comparison of Israel and the United States. Seminar participants will first study the philosophical and political processes that led to codification of human rights in both countries. We will then take a closer look at some of the main human rights controversies, including desegregation of education, freedom of religion, housing equality, extra-territorial application of human rights, and employment rights. Readings for the course include Court decisions, International Law instruments, Domestic legislation and socio-legal articles, as well as sociological analyses. “Human rights” has become a ubiquitous concept around the world. It is used to justify, legitimize, and critique policies, practices, and laws. Despite the evolution of “human rights” over the last half-century in both

international and domestic law, the content and impact of the concept remains unclear. This seminar will address key issues in contemporary human rights theory and practice through a comparison of Israel and the United States. Seminar participants will first study the philosophical and political processes that led to codification of human rights in both countries. We will then take a closer look at some of the main human rights controversies, including desegregation of education, freedom of religion, housing equality, extra-territorial application of human rights, and employment rights. Readings for the course include Court decisions, International Law instruments, Domestic legislation and socio-legal articles, as well as sociological analyses.

Class Notes: Course will typically end by 2pm but may run until 2:45.

SOCIOL 1167 SOCIOLOGY OF LAW

Class Number: 16454 Course ID: 212660

Fall 2019

Yael Berda

MW 9:00am-10:15am

Law has a social life. Actually, it has multiple social lives. First, law is itself the product of social forces. It is shaped by what people fight about, what is taken for granted, and what can and cannot be said. But law is also an institution that makes other social institutions possible. From contracts to borders, citizenship to marriage, law consists of concepts and categories, institutions and processes that create social forms and enforce the rules of multiple games. As we will see this semester, law is both the outcome and the starting point of many social processes, it tells us both the history and the perceived future of a social phenomenon. Even before its inception within the legal structure of mandate Palestine in 1948, Israeli law, broadly defined, has been a site for social controversy and contestation. Issues of citizenship and land ownership, geographical borders and international law, the role of the religion in private and public life, questions of historical legacies from the Ottoman and British empires as well as Hebrew and Muslim law all provide powerful case studies for sociologists of law. We will use these issues in Israel as a comparative vantage point to learn to use our sociological imagination to identify, analyze and explain these social phenomena using law and society scholarship.

Related Sections: Discussion TBA

SOCIOL 2219 TRANSNATIONAL HISTORICAL SOCIOLOGY:

ANTISEMITISM AND IMPERIALISM

Class Number: 16451 Course ID: 206969

Fall 2019

Yael Berda

M 12:00pm-2:45pm

Sociologists have analyzed empires through the entire history of the discipline.

Using imperial frameworks as a unit of analysis was fruitful for learning about state formation and consolidation of power, the innovation of governance methods in multicultural settings, migration and political membership and the relationship between state violence, law, economic extraction, and the growing repertoire of toolkits of government. Hannah Arendt's thesis linking the rise of totalitarianism to imperial practices of government and exploitation, and the use of anti-Semitism to consolidate nationalism is a useful point of departure for investigation of contemporary impact of historical regimes. This course incorporates primary historical, administrative and legal sources from the Roman, Mongolian, Mughal, Ottoman and British Empires, with scholarship of historians, sociologists and economists to providing a broad introduction to transnational historical research. Coupling theoretical readings with hands-on methodological training, Students will practice searching archive materials (at Widener library) and will visit the Geographic Information Systems Center at Harvard for a look at possibilities for using spatial and temporal data for transnational historical research with a focus on Imperialism and Anti-Semitism.

This course is open to undergraduate students with instructor permission.

Course Notes: This course is designed for graduate students in Sociology (but also open political science, economics, law and public policy interested in conducting transnational historical research using archival data), This course is open to undergraduate students with instructor permission.

Class Notes: This course taught by Yael Berda

MOD-HEB 241R ADVANCED SEMINAR IN MODERN HEBREW: ISRAELI CULTURE: CINEMA & LITERATURE

Class Number: 11533 Course ID: 127670

Fall 2019

Irit Aharony

TTh 12:00pm-2:45pm

This course constitutes the final level of Modern Hebrew language studies. The course offers representative readings and screenings from contemporary Israeli literature and cinema, and it forms bases of discussion on major cultural and linguistic themes through academic readings.

Course Notes: Offered jointly with the Divinity School as HDS 4045. Not open to auditors. Discussions, papers, movies and texts presented only in Hebrew.

Recommended Prep: Modern Hebrew 130b or equivalent.

Jointly Offered with: Harvard Divinity School as HDS 4045

***We expect substantial changes to course listings for Spring 2020**

CLASSICAL HEBREW (BIBLICAL AND MODERN), AND YIDDISH LANGUAGE

CLAS-HEB AA ELEMENTARY CLASSICAL HEBREW I

Class Number: 11789 Course ID: 123023

Fall 2019

Andrew Teeter

MWF 9:00am-10:00am

A thorough and rigorous introduction to Biblical Hebrew, with emphasis on grammar in the first term, and translation of biblical prose in the second. Daily preparation and active class participation mandatory. Students must complete both terms of this course (parts A and B) within the same academic year in order to receive credit.

Course Notes: Offered jointly with the Divinity School as 4010A. Classical Hebrew AA/AB is an indivisible year-long course. Students must complete both terms of this course (parts A and B) within the same academic year in order to receive credit.

Jointly Offered with: Harvard Divinity School as HDS 4010A

CLAS-HEB 120A INTERMEDIATE CLASSICAL HEBREW I

Class Number: 14897 Course ID: 116431

Fall 2019

Andrew Teeter

MWF 10:30am-11:30am

Readings in prose books; review of grammar.

Course Notes: Offered jointly with the Divinity School as 4020.

Recommended Prep: Classical Hebrew AA/AB sequence or equivalent.

Jointly Offered with: Harvard Divinity School as HDS 4020

CLAS-HEB 130AR RAPID READING CLASSICAL HEBREW I

Class Number: 11966 Course ID: 122692

Fall 2019

Andrew Teeter

Th 12:00pm-2:00pm

Advanced reading in selected biblical prose texts and intensive review of the grammar of Biblical Hebrew.

Course Notes: Offered jointly with the Divinity School as 1625.

Recommended Prep: Classical Hebrew AA/AB sequence, CH 120a, and 120b, or equivalent.

Jointly Offered with: Harvard Divinity School as HDS 1625

MOD-HEB BA ELEMENTARY MODERN HEBREW I

Class Number: 11820 Course ID: 114218

Fall 2019

Irit Aharony

MTWThF 9:00am-10:15am

The course introduces students to the phonology and script as well as the fundamentals of morphology and syntax of Modern Hebrew. Emphasis is placed on developing reading, speaking, comprehension and writing skills, while introducing students to various aspects of contemporary Israeli society and culture. This is an indivisible course. Students must complete both terms of this course (parts A and B) within the same academic year in order to receive credit.

Course Notes: Offered jointly with the Divinity School as 4015A. Not open to auditors. Cannot be taken pass/fail. Modern Hebrew BA/BB is an indivisible year-long course. Students must complete both terms of this course (parts A and B) within the same academic year in order to receive credit. In specific cases the instructor will consider approval of enrollment in MOD-HEB BB and MOD-HEB 120A as fulfillment of the one-year language requirement, depending on the student's proficiency level.

Jointly Offered with: Harvard Divinity School as HDS 4015A

MOD-HEB 120A INTERMEDIATE MODERN HEBREW I

Class Number: 13265 Course ID: 110947

Fall 2019

Irit Aharony

MTWThF 10:30am-11:45am

The course reinforces and expands knowledge of linguistic and grammatical structures, with emphasis on further developing the four skills. Readings include selections from contemporary Israeli literature, print media, and internet publications. Readings and class discussions cover various facets of Israeli high and popular culture. Conducted primarily in Hebrew. Offered jointly with the Divinity School as 4040. Modern Hebrew B or passing of special departmental placement test.

Course Notes: Conducted primarily in Hebrew. Offered jointly with the Divinity School as 4040. Not open to auditors.

Recommended Prep: Modern Hebrew BA/BB sequence or passing of special departmental placement test.

Jointly Offered with: Harvard Divinity School as HDS 4040

***We expect substantial changes to course listings for Spring 2020**

MOD-HEB 130A ADVANCED MODERN HEBREW I

Class Number: 11124 Course ID: 119630

Fall 2019

Irit Aharony

MW 12:00pm-2:45pm

This course constitutes the third year of the Modern Hebrew language sequence. The course emphasizes the development of advanced proficiency in all skills. Readings include texts of linguistic and cultural complexity that cover contemporary Israeli literature and culture.

Course Notes: Conducted in Hebrew. Not open to auditors. Offered jointly with the Divinity School as 4042.

Recommended Prep: Modern Hebrew 120A/120B sequence, or equivalent level of proficiency.

Jointly Offered with: Harvard Divinity School as HDS 4042

YIDDISH AA ELEMENTARY YIDDISH I

Class Number: 11782 Course ID: 114058

Fall 2019

Sara Feldman

MTWThF 10:30am-11:45am

Introduction to Yiddish language, literature, and culture. In the course of the year, students will acquire a thorough grounding in Yiddish grammar and will develop strong foundational reading, writing, speaking, and comprehension skills. The course will introduce students to the 1000-year history of Yiddish culture in Eastern Europe, the United States, and around the world. Students will learn about the past and present of this culture through exposure to Yiddish literature, music, theater, film, radio, oral history, and the Yiddish internet—an introduction to the dynamic world of Yiddish culture and scholarship that exists today. Students must complete both terms of this course (parts A and B) within the same academic year in order to receive credit.

Course Notes: For students with little or no knowledge of Yiddish. Additional sections at different times may be added as needed. Contact instructor if you have a scheduling conflict. Yiddish AA/AB is an indivisible year-long course. Students must complete both terms of this course (parts A and B) within the same academic year in order to receive credit.

Recommended Prep: No prerequisites; knowledge of Yiddish not assumed.

YIDDISH BA INTERMEDIATE YIDDISH I

Class Number: 11215 Course ID: 119874

Fall 2019

Sara Feldman

MTWThF 1:30pm-2:45pm

Building on the skills gained in Yiddish AA/AB, students will further develop their Yiddish reading, writing, speaking, and oral comprehension skills. Focus will be on working with a wide variety of textual and cultural materials spanning the Yiddish-speaking world in the modern era. Course materials include selections from Yiddish fiction, poetry, drama, film, music, the press, and historical documents. Students will become familiar with the language's dialects, writing conventions, and historical development. Course activities will introduce students to the latest developments in online Yiddish publishing and digital humanities scholarship.

Course Notes: Additional sections at different times may be added as needed. Contact instructor if you have a scheduling conflict.

Recommended Prep: Yiddish AA/AB sequence, or equivalent.

YIDDISH CA ADVANCED YIDDISH I

Class Number: 11125 Course ID: 123432

Fall 2019

Sara Feldman

MTWThF 3:00pm-4:15pm

Building on the skills gained in Yiddish BA/BB, the emphasis of this course is on gaining ease in reading, speaking, writing, and listening comprehension. Students will be guided in exploring their individual areas of interest in Yiddish culture, and will be encouraged to begin producing their own research, creative projects, and translations; taking part in the latest developments in online Yiddish publishing and digital humanities scholarship. Continued exposure to a wide variety of textual and cultural materials, including literature, journalism, folklore, music, film, and theater; with a special focus on the diversity of Yiddish in terms of dialects, vocabulary, historical development, and writing conventions. Ample use of audiovisual and digital materials.

Course Notes: Additional sections at different times may be added as needed. Contact instructor if you have a scheduling conflict.

Recommended Prep: Yiddish BB or permission of the instructor.

***We expect substantial changes to course listings for Spring 2020**

JEWISH LAW (HARVARD LAW SCHOOL)

ADVANCED TOPICS IN JEWISH LAW AND LEGAL THEORY

Professor Noah Feldman

Fall 2019 reading group

Th 7:00pm-9:00pm in WCC Room 3008

1 classroom credit

Prerequisite: This seminar will be by permission of the instructor, who strongly prefers that students have a background in advanced study of Jewish legal material. To apply please send a short statement of interest including background in Jewish legal studies to nfeldman@law.harvard.edu with a copy to swhalen@law.harvard.edu.

Exam Type: No exam.

The group will examine sociological questions of the Yeshiva world as well as theoretical/textual ones regarding what is studied, and how, and by whom.

Note: The reading group will meet on the following dates: TBD.

Subject Areas: International, Comparative & Foreign Law, Disciplinary Perspectives & Law

READING TALMUDIC STORIES

Dr. Ruth Calderon

Fall 2019 reading group

W 5:00pm-7:00pm in WCC Room 4057

1 classroom credit

Prerequisite: None

Exam Type: No exam.

The Talmud contains hundreds of stories about rabbinic sages and other historical figures who lived during the late Second Temple and Rabbinic Periods, which spanned the first few centuries of the Common Era.

For generations these stories were neglected by literary audiences and were considered the province of rabbis and historians. This is no longer the case, as in the past decades the stories were rediscovered and became the subject of literary and cultural study and other new interpretations.

Each story has at least two ways of being read: conventionally and – to invoke

a term used by Walter Benjamin – against the grain. When a particular story is read conventionally, it is understood as describing an incident that accords with the accepted values that ostensibly governed the rabbinic world. When read against the grain, it criticizes those accepted norms and values.

The reading group will invite students to read, study and explore the pedagogy in chavruta – small study groups.

Note: This reading group will meet on the following dates: 10/2, 10/9, 10/16, 10/23, 10/30, 11/6

Subject Areas: Disciplinary Perspectives & Law, International, Comparative & Foreign Law

LAW AND NARRATIVE IN THE TALMUD

Dr. Ruth Calderon

Fall 2019 seminar

T 5:00pm-7:00pm in WCC Room 3009

2 classroom credits

Prerequisite: None

Exam Type: No exam.

The juxtaposition of law and narrative is a characteristic and an important feature of the Talmud. After discussing the formal requirements for some Halachic law, such as: praying, requesting forgiveness, asking for rain, leaving home for a long period of time or giving charity to the poor, the Talmud presents anonymous brief stories presenting various encounters in which rabbinic masters attempt to fulfill these human challenges.

Each of the stories raises the question of the power and limits of the law to structure such complex human moments.

In the seminar we will examine these Talmudic texts, where the law as a process of generalized rulemaking reaches its limit. We will try to ‘close read’ the stories, with literary hermeneutic tools, and shed light on the profound and precise analysis of the human motives as seen by the sages who created the stories.

Reading the stories as part of the Talmudic sage’s intellectual and spiritual world resists the divide in traditional Jewish learning between legal literature (*Halakhah*) and nonlegal literature (*Aggadah*) by suggesting the possibility of a discourse broad enough to capture both.

Subject Areas: Disciplinary Perspectives & Law, Legal History, International, Comparative & Foreign Law

TO POLITICS AND BEYOND

Dr. Ruth Calderon

Fall 2019 seminar

Th 5:00pm-7:00pm in WCC Room 5052

2 classroom credits

Prerequisite: None

Exam Type: No exam.

This seminar seeks to address the unique challenges arising from Israel's dual identity as a Jewish nation-state and a liberal democracy. We will explore some core challenges and issues in the Israeli political scene, such as religion and state in a Jewish context, the complexity of a democratic nation-state, equality, the Law of Return and more.

We will study texts such as the Declaration of Independence, basic law 'human dignity and liberty', and the 'national law'.

We will relate these texts to the efforts to legislate a basic law of equality, a new law for civil union, a secular law for Shabbat, the seventh year of Smitah as an opportunity to forgive debt and how these efforts failed.

Subject Areas: Legal & Political Theory, Legal History, Disciplinary Perspectives & Law, International, Comparative & Foreign Law

ADDITIONAL COURSES RELEVANT TO JEWISH STUDIES

GOV 940F LAW AND POLITICS IN MULTICULTURAL DEMOCRACIES

Class Number: 11568 Course ID: 128009

Fall 2019

Ofrit Liviatan

M 3:00pm-5:45pm

Examines the role of law in the governance of cultural diversity drawing on examples from the USA, Western Europe, India and Israel. Central themes at the intersection of law and politics will be explored, including: the impact of courts on rights protections, law's function as a venue of conflict resolution, and courts' relationship with other political institutions. Specific attention will be given to contemporary controversies such as Islamic veiling, abortion and same sex marriage.

**HDS 2290 JEWS AND CHRISTIANS: THE HOLOCAUST AND THE
CHRISTIAN WORLD**

Class Number: 18490 Course ID: 104078

Fall 2019

Kevin Madigan

TTh 9:00am-10:15am

This course will focus on the relationship of the Christian churches to the Holocaust. After a brief historical overview of the Holocaust, the course will focus on the following themes: the evolution of classical Christian Jew-hatred to modern antisemitism; the complicity, resistance, compliance and confrontation of the Catholic and Protestant churches to the Holocaust in Nazi-occupied Europe, with special attention given to the Vatican and the Holocaust; the role of religious motivation in rescue and resistance; theology after the Holocaust and the responses of the Christian churches to the Shoah; and representation of religion and the Holocaust in film, literature, memorial and religious practice.

**HIST 14T MY COUNTRY RIGHT OR WRONG? NATIONALISM IN THE
MODERN WORLD**

Class Number: 16725 Course ID: 212862

Fall 2019

Derek Penslar

Th 12:45pm-2:45pm

President Trump has said that he is a “nationalist.” What does this word mean, and why does its use provoke controversy? This course answers these questions via an analysis of nationalist ideas and movements throughout the world over the past 250 years. We will trace nationalism’s origins in pre-modern identities, liberal and revolutionary forms of nationalisms in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, nationalisms’ relationship with religion, race, and gender, the apparent decline of nationalism in the late twentieth century, and its abrupt return to center stage in our own era. Requirements include a 15-page research essay.

HIST 2007 HISTORIES OF EMOTION: RESEARCH SEMINAR

Class Number: 16198 Course ID: 212677

Fall 2019

Derek Penslar

W 3:45pm-5:45pm

The history of emotion is a subset of cultural history – the study of how humans make sense of themselves, their environment, and their experience. This seminar will historicize emotion within specific social contexts and explore the intertwining of emotion, cognition, and judgment in public as well as private life. Although our emphasis will be late modernity, our common readings will explore the medieval and early modern periods for which pioneering work in the

field has been done. This seminar culminates in an article-length (30-40 page) research essay whose methodology engages substantively with the history of emotion.

Class Notes: This course will meet in the Giedrojc Gallery at the Center for European Studies, 27 Kirkland Street.

RELIGION 1461 GENDER, RELIGION AND SCRIPTURE

Class Number: 19123 Course ID: 203213

Fall 2019

Elisabeth Schussler Fiorenza

M 3:00pm-5:00pm

This course is an introduction to the field of feminist biblical studies. We will discuss the intellectual history and institutional development of feminist biblical studies around the globe and explore different methods of analysis such as rhetorical, historical, queer, or intersectional kyriarchal analyses. We also will explore biblical women's stories such as Eve, Sarah, Hagar Mary of Magdala, or the slave girl Rhoda. Lectures, group meetings, discussions, and presentations seek to foster participatory, collaborative and democratic styles of learning.

Class Notes: Offered jointly as HDS 2117.

Jointly Offered with: Harvard Divinity School as HDS 2117

RELIGION 3421 SEMINAR FOR ADVANCED NEW TESTAMENT AND RELIGIONS OF THE ANCIENT MEDITERRANEAN

Class Number: 21699 Course ID: 213513

Fall 2019

Giovanni Bazzana

Th 3:00pm-5:00pm

This graduate seminar will focus on current discussions within the study of Religions of the Ancient Mediterranean. The main goal is to prepare students to be aware of and to participate in ongoing conversations on current topics in the field, such as, for example, the relationship between formative Judaism and Christianity, the role of race in ancient religions, the transmission of ancient religious books, or the methodological challenge of combining textual and non-textual types of evidence in the study of ancient religions. The participants will be asked to read extensively in scholarly literature published over the last 4 or 5 years, present often to the class, and practice on genres relevant for academic work (such as book reviews, syllabi, annotated bibliographies, and so on).

Participation in the seminar is encouraged for those thinking about academic work and for those interested in deepening their familiarity with the fields of New Testament studies and/or Religions of the Ancient Mediterranean. A basic acquaintance with the fields is required. Jointly offered with Harvard Divinity School as HDS 1981.

Course Notes: None

Jointly Offered with: Harvard Divinity School as HDS 1981

***We expect substantial changes to course listings for Spring 2020**

FACULTY OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

SPRING SEMESTER

GENERAL EDUCATION

GENED 1095 Is War Inevitable?

Class Number: 20318 Course ID: 214413

Spring 2020

Derek Penslar

MW 10:30am-11:45am

Why is there war? Will there always be war? This course tackles these questions through a historical overview of human conflict that incorporates approaches from International Relations, Psychology, Ethics, and Comparative Literature. The course begins by discussing the socio-biological roots of human aggression and altruism, and pre-modern justifications for war and attempts to place limits on its conduct. We will then move on to a series of case studies of modern wars, divided into six types - interstate, revolutionary, civil, colonial, separatist, and global. We will examine each type of war's effects on fighters and non-combatants alike and repercussions for post-war society. We will see how each type of war has fostered different approaches - ranging from international humanitarian law, organizations like the League of Nations and United Nations, and anti-war protest movements - to the prevention, mitigation, or resolution of conflict. We will conclude with two final case studies: the Cold War (1947-1991) and "War on Terror" (2001 -), which have reduced war's intensity but rendered it more

difficult to eradicate and more potentially destructive.

Our readings will combine textbook overviews of wars and their aftermath, in-depth studies of specific topics, and primary sources such as works on military strategy and just war theory, representations of war in literature and cinema, and diaries and memoirs. Course requirements include a take-home midterm, a final examination, and two short papers based on the primary sources.

Related Sections: Discussion TBA

GENED 1149 ONE BOOK, TWO RELIGIONS, MANY TRUTHS

Class Number: 16738 Course ID: 120880

Spring 2020

Shaye Cohen

MW 10:30am-11:45am

The Hebrew Scriptures, what Christians call the “Old Testament” and Jews call the “Bible,” are the basis of both Judaism and Christianity, and stand behind many debates in our contemporary culture wars. In this course we shall survey how this work of literature, through interpretation and re-interpretation, spawned and spawns a wide variety of truths. Implicit themes: What is truth? How do we know it when we see it? Can a text written long ago contain truths for contemporary society?

Related Sections: Discussion TBA

BIBLICAL/ANCIENT NEAR EAST

ANE 120B INTRODUCTION TO THE HEBREW BIBLE/OLD TESTAMENT 2: LATTER PROPHETS AND WRITINGS

Class Number: 19919 Course ID: 126065

Spring 2020

Andrew Teeter

TTh 10:30am-11:45am

A critical introduction to the literature and theology of the Hebrew Bible, considered in light of the historical contexts of its formation and the interpretive contexts of its reception within Judaism and Christianity. The course, the second part of a divisible, year-long sequence, will focus on the Latter Prophets and the Writings.

Course Notes: Offered jointly with the Divinity School as 1103.

***We expect substantial changes to course listings for Spring 2020**

HDS 1300 STUDIES IN THE FORMER PROPHETS: SEMINAR

Class Number: 19119 Course ID: 203962

Spring 2020

Andrew Teeter

T 3:00pm-5:00pm

A close examination of select passages within the books of Joshua, Judges, Samuel and Kings, with particular attention to large-scale compositional strategies and principles of organization, to analogical patterns, to inner-scriptural relationships, and to the nature and function of allusion within these texts. This course will also serve as a prerequisite for the spring seminar, *Rewriting Scripture in Jewish Antiquity*, which focused on the book of Chronicles in Spring 2016. The course presumes proficiency with Biblical Hebrew. Two years of Hebrew (or equivalent) required. Jointly offered in the Faculty of Arts and Sciences as Jewish Studies 202.

HDS 1565 THE TRIAL AND DEATH OF JESUS

Class Number: 19308 Course ID: 213511

Spring 2020

Giovanni Bazzana and Shaye Cohen

Th 3:00pm-5:00pm

The seminar will examine the accounts of Jesus's trial and death in order to address the historical and interpretive issues connected to this important and mysterious episode. Prominent attention will be given to primary sources and to their contextualization within early Judaism. Working knowledge of Greek and/or Hebrew is required.

C LASSICAL AND MEDIEVAL JEWISH LITERATURE, HISTORY, AND C ULTURE

COURSE NUMBER TBD THE JEWISH LIBRARY: FOUR CLASSIC BOOKS

Class Number: Course ID:

Spring 2020

David Stern

Th 3:00pm-5:45pm

Judaism is a famously text-centric religious culture, founded not only on a single book, the Hebrew Bible, but profoundly involved in the study and ritual use of

other classic texts like the Babylonian Talmud, the Prayerbook, Biblical commentaries like that of Rashi, and the Passover Haggadah. This course will study the development of these four books and their transformation from texts into books with distinct physical and material features. In the case of each book, the text will be studied historically-- “excavated” for its sources and roots, and its subsequent development over the centuries—and holistically, as a canonical document in Jewish tradition. Class time will be devoted primarily to learning to read the primary sources in translation; supplementary secondary readings will provide historical and cultural context. The seminar will also include regular visits to Houghton Library to look at manuscripts, early printed editions, and facsimiles of these books in order to study the changing shapes these books have taken as a key to understanding how they were studied and used, and to consider the relationship of materiality to textuality. While each book will raise its own set of issues, we will repeatedly deal with three basic questions: What makes a “Jewish” text? How do these books represent different aspects of Jewish identity? What can these books tell us about the canonical books of other religious traditions?

Course Notes: No previous background in either Judaism or Jewish history is required. All readings in English translation. While this course is not a formal introduction to Judaism, it does aim to introduce students to Judaism and Jewish culture from inside its classic texts.

COURSE NUMBER TBD PRAYER AND PRAYERBOOK (*TEFILLAH AND SIDDUR*)

Class Number: Course ID:
Spring 2020
David Stern
W 2:00pm-5:00pm

The institution of organized prayer—*Tefillah be-Tzibbur*—is one of the most complex phenomena in Judaism because it has served historically not only as a medium for worshipping God but also for expressing communal religious identity. In the first half of this course, we will study the development of prayer from the Bible until the medieval period through reading primary sources--select passages from the Bible, Talmud and midrash, Geonic literature and other rabbinic texts—as well as secondary works for historical and literary background. We will also trace the development of piyyut, Hebrew liturgical poetry, and what it can tell us about the character of Jewish prayer. In the second part of the course, we will study the history of the prayerbook as a physical, material object from the early medieval period into the modern. Special attention will be paid to the great illustrated Ashkenazi and Italian *mahzorim* (holiday prayerbooks) and *siddurim*, and to the place of the visual imagination in Jewish religious culture. One class will also be devoted to the development of the synagogue and sacred space. The course will also include visits to Houghton Library to view original editions and rare facsimiles of manuscripts.

While the class itself will be conducted in English, all primary sources will be read in Hebrew. Students should be able to read unpointed Hebrew texts.

HDS 1834 ARCHAEOLOGY AND HISTORY OF ISRAEL/PALESTINE FROM THE SECOND TEMPLE TO THE EARLY ISLAMIC PERIOD

Class Number: 19304 Course ID: 213510

Spring 2020

Giovanni Bazzana

Th 12:00pm-2:00pm

The course will focus on the history of Israel/Palestine in the span of time of almost a millennium that witnessed the emergence of Judaism, Christianity, and Islam. Specific attention will be devoted to the changing landscape of the region and, by way of case studies, to archaeological excavations as evidence for cultural, religious, and socio-economic trajectories. The study of history and archaeology will be connected with the current religious and political situation of the region in order to highlight the ways in which the memory of the past shapes the present and is in turn shaped by present ideological concerns.

Participation in the course includes participation to a three-weeks trip to Israel/Palestine that will take place in May before graduation and will include a week of excavation on the Magdala site.

MODERN JEWISH LITERATURE, HISTORY, AND CULTURE

COMPLIT 106 THE YIDDISH SHORT STORY: FOLK TALES, MONOLOGUES, AND POST-APOCALYPTIC PARABLES

Class Number: 16409 Course ID: 212720

Spring 2020

Saul Zaritt

W 9:00am-11:45am

Who are the storytellers of Yiddish literature? Where did their stories come from? Why did the short story become the central genre of modern Jewish literary culture? This course explores the genealogy of the Yiddish short story from the hasidic folk tale to the modernist sketch, from the monologues of Sholem Aleichem and Isaac Bashevis Singer to the haunting narratives of David Bergelson and Der Nister. Stretching from the nineteenth century to the present, we follow the short story in its comparative contexts from Eastern Europe to Western Europe, Palestine/Israel, and the US. Note: All texts will be taught in

translation; optional reading section for those with Yiddish knowledge.

COMPLIT 166 JEWS, HUMOR, AND THE POLITICS OF LAUGHTER

Class Number: 16401 Course ID: 205045

Spring 2020

Saul Zaritt

TTh 1:30pm-2:45pm

By mistake some thieves found their way into Hershele's house late at night while he was sleeping. They searched and searched but found nothing. Meanwhile, Hershele heard their rummaging and slowly crept up behind one of the thieves. He grabbed him by the arm and the thief, naturally, tried to run away. Hershele held him close, whispering, "Be still. Maybe together we'll actually find something." Beginning with jokes like this one, this course will examine the question of Jewish humor, exploring the concept of therapeutic joking, the politics of self-deprecation, and strategies of masking social critique behind a well-timed joke. Rather than reach some essential definition, we will instead investigate literature, stand-up comedy, film, and television of the twentieth and twenty-first century in order to 1) think together about the theory, mechanics, and techniques of comedy and humor and 2) ask how and when a text or performance gets labeled Jewish, by whom and for what purposes. Texts, films, and performers include: Freud, Kafka, Sholem Aleichem, the Marx Brothers, Larry David, Jon Stewart, Jill Soloway, Broad City, and Rachel Bloom.

SOCIOL 98BF JUNIOR TUTORIAL: RACE AND BUREAUCRACY

Class Number: 16478 Course ID: 212661

Spring 2020

Yael Berda

T 9:45am-11:45am

We usually think of issues of race, racism and racialization as separate from organizations: corporate firms, departments of the federal government, and even schools. Yet organizations are major sites where racial categories and classifications have an impact on the lives of people and communities. Race and bureaucracy have a long history that begins with imperial and colonial practices and continues to shape the way organizations recruit employees, create different legal practices to different kinds of populations, distribute visas or prevent entry based on race and ethnicity and even decide who gets loans and credit cards.

Using Hanna Arendt's work on race and bureaucracy in the shaping of totalitarian regimes as a starting point, we will explore how racial categories and classifications are constructed, maintained, manipulated and resisted within formal organizations and particularly state bureaucracies.

Following the review of the relevant literature in the first four weeks, students

will design and complete their own research projects. To aid in this process, we will have workshops throughout the course on the various steps of the research process, from formulating the question to collecting and analyzing data. We will provide brief overviews of both qualitative methods (interviews and ethnographic observations) and historical approaches (analysis of archival data).

Course Notes: Required of and limited to Sociology concentrators. Junior Tutorials are by lottery only.

Recommended Prep: Prerequisite: Sociology 97 AND Sociology Concentrators

SOCIOL 1138 THE ISRAELI/PALESTINIAN CONFLICT: CONTEMPORARY SOCIO-LEGAL ASPECTS

Class Number: 19017 Course ID: 212817

Spring 2020

Tally Amir

M 12:00pm-2:45pm

The decades-long Israeli-Palestinian conflict has attracted significant international attention and is perceived as an international threat. This seminar offers a nuanced and safe discussion of the conflict's socio-legal context and its implications for Palestinian and Israeli society, through exploring the works of scholars from diverse backgrounds and views. We will take a closer look at some of the main controversies, and how these impact the lived experiences of people in both societies, including Israel's control over and settlements in the West Bank; the separation wall and policy; concepts of citizenship, migration and refugee-hood; Palestinian and Israeli statehood; and more. Readings for the course include court decisions, international law instruments, and domestic legislation, as well as sociological analyses.

Class Notes: Course will typically end by 2pm but may run until 2:45.

YIDDISH 118 YIDDISH CINEMA

Class Number: 15308 Course ID: 211187

Spring 2020

Sara Feldman

MW 1:30pm-2:30pm

From love-sick demons ("The Dybbuk") to crossdressing fiddlers ("Yidl mitn fidl"), the Yiddish "talkie" of the 1930s and 40s was dynamic medium for both preservation and innovation in Jewish culture. This "golden age" of Yiddish film was short but wide-ranging, with films produced in Soviet, US, and Polish contexts that explored themes of class struggle, immigration, tradition versus modernity, generational conflict, queerness, Jewish persecution, and the fate of Yiddish culture. This course will delve into the diversity of this tradition while also exploring its impact on later Yiddish films, from Israeli confrontations with the Holocaust to the rise of the Yiddish YouTube video and contemporary filmic depictions of the Hasidic world.

Course Notes: No prior knowledge of Yiddish or film studies required.

***We expect substantial changes to course listings for Spring 2020**

CLASSICAL HEBREW (BIBLICAL AND MODERN), AND YIDDISH LANGUAGE

CLAS-HEB AB ELEMENTARY CLASSICAL HEBREW II

Class Number: 11717 Course ID: 159881

Spring 2020

Andrew Teeter

MTW 9:00am-10:00am

Continuation of Classical Hebrew AA. A thorough and rigorous introduction to Biblical Hebrew, with emphasis on grammar in the first term, and translation of biblical prose in the second. Daily preparation and active class participation mandatory. Students must complete both terms of this course (parts A and B) within the same academic year in order to receive credit.

Course Notes: Offered jointly with the Divinity School as 4010B. Classical Hebrew AA/AB is an indivisible year-long course. Students must complete both terms of this course (parts A and B) within the same academic year in order to receive credit.

Related Sections: Discussion TBA

CLAS-HEB 120B INTERMEDIATE CLASSICAL HEBREW II

Class Number: 11605 Course ID: 123873

Spring 2020

Andrew Teeter

MWF 10:30am-11:30am

Readings in prose and poetic books; review of grammar. Prerequisite: Classical Hebrew 120a or the equivalent. Jointly offered as HDS 4021.

Course Notes: Offered jointly with the Divinity School as HDS 4021.

Recommended Prep: Classical Hebrew 120a or equivalent.

CLAS-HEB 130BR RAPID READING CLASSICAL HEBREW II

Class Number: 11611 Course ID: 122693

Spring 2020

Andrew Teeter

Th 12:00pm-2:00pm

Advanced reading in selected biblical poetic texts and intensive review of the grammar of Biblical Hebrew.

Recommended Prep: Classical Hebrew 130a or equivalent. Offered jointly with the Divinity School as 1626.

MOD-HEB BB ELEMENTARY MODERN HEBREW II

Class Number: 11774 Course ID: 159988

Spring 2020

Irit Aharony

MTWThF 9:00am-10:15am

The course introduces students to the phonology and script as well as the fundamentals of morphology and syntax of Modern Hebrew. Emphasis is placed on developing reading, speaking, comprehension and writing skills, while introducing students to various aspects of contemporary Israeli society and culture. This is an indivisible course. Students must complete both terms of this course (parts A and B) within the same academic year in order to receive credit.

Course Notes: Offered jointly with the Divinity School as HDS 4015B. Not open to auditors. Cannot be taken pass/fail. This is an indivisible course. Students must complete both terms of this course (parts A and B) within the same academic year in order to receive credit. In specific cases the instructor will consider approval of enrollment in MOD-HEB BB and MOD-HEB 120A as fulfillment of the one-year language requirement, depending on the student's proficiency level.

MOD-HEB 120B INTERMEDIATE MODERN HEBREW II

Class Number: 10717 Course ID: 111756

Spring 2020

Irit Aharony

MTWThF 10:30am-11:45am

Continuation of Hebrew 120a.

Course Notes: Conducted primarily in Hebrew. Offered jointly with the Divinity School as 4041. Not open to auditors.

Recommended Prep: Modern Hebrew 120a

MOD-HEB 130B ADVANCED MODERN HEBREW II

Class Number: 11513 Course ID: 126531

Spring 2020

Irit Aharony

MW 12:00pm-2:45pm

This course is a continuation of Hebrew 130a. Texts, films, and other materials expose students to the richness and complexity of the contemporary sociolinguistics of Israeli society.

Course Notes: Conducted in Hebrew. Not open to auditors. Offered jointly with the Divinity School as 4043.

Recommended Prep: Modern Hebrew 130a, or equivalent level of proficiency.

YIDDISH AB ELEMENTARY YIDDISH II

Class Number: 11710 Course ID: 159871

Spring 2020

Sara Feldman

MWF 10:30am-11:45am

Th 3:00pm-4:15pm

Continuation of Yiddish AA. Introduction to Yiddish language, literature, and culture. In the course of the year, students will acquire a thorough grounding in Yiddish grammar and will develop strong foundational reading, writing, speaking, and comprehension skills. The course will introduce students to the 1000-year history of Yiddish culture in Eastern Europe, the United States, and around the world. Students will learn about the past and present of this culture through exposure to Yiddish literature, music, theater, film, radio, oral history, and the Yiddish internet—an introduction to the dynamic world of Yiddish culture and scholarship that exists today. Students must complete both terms of this course (parts A and B) within the same academic year in order to receive credit.

Course Notes: For students with little or no knowledge of Yiddish. Additional sections at different times may be added as needed. Yiddish AA/AB is an indivisible year-long course. Students must complete both terms of this course (parts A and B) within the same academic year in order to receive credit.

Recommended Prep: No prerequisites.

YIDDISH BB INTERMEDIATE YIDDISH II

Class Number: 11216 Course ID: 119875

Spring 2020

Sara Feldman

MT 3:00pm-4:00pm

Th 1:30pm-2:30pm

F 9:00am-10:00am

Continuation of Yiddish BA. Students will further develop their Yiddish reading, writing, speaking, and oral comprehension skills. Focus will be on working with a wide variety of textual and cultural materials spanning the Yiddish-speaking world in the modern era. Course materials include selections from Yiddish fiction, poetry, drama, film, music, the press, and historical documents. Students will become familiar with the language's dialects, writing conventions, and historical development. Course activities will introduce students to the latest developments in online Yiddish publishing and digital humanities scholarship.

Recommended Prep: Yiddish BA or permission of the instructor.

***We expect substantial changes to course listings for Spring 2020**

JEWISH LAW (HARVARD LAW SCHOOL)

ADVANCED TOPICS IN JEWISH LAW AND LEGAL THEORY

Professor Noah Feldman
Spring 2020 reading group
Th 7:00pm-9:00pm
1 classroom credit

Prerequisite: This seminar will be by permission of the instructor, who strongly prefers that students have a background in advanced study of Jewish legal material. To apply please send a short statement of interest including background in Jewish legal studies to nfeldman@law.harvard.edu with a copy to swhalen@law.harvard.edu.

Exam Type: No exam.

The group will examine sociological questions of the Yeshiva world as well as theoretical/textual ones regarding what is studied, and how, and by whom.

Note: The reading group will meet on the following dates: TBD.

Subject Areas: International, Comparative & Foreign Law, Disciplinary Perspectives & Law

ADDITIONAL COURSES RELEVANT TO JEWISH STUDIES

HDS 2291 REPRESENTATION, RELIGION, AND TRAGEDY: THE HOLOCAUST IN LITERATURE AND FILM

Class Number: 19595 Course ID: 104079
Spring 2020
Kevin Madigan
F 9:00am-11:00am

This course will focus on the relationship of the Christian churches to the Holocaust. After a brief historical overview of the Holocaust, the course will focus on the following themes: the evolution of classical Christian Jew-hatred to modern antisemitism; the complicity, resistance, compliance and confrontation of the Catholic and Protestant churches to the Holocaust in Nazi-occupied Europe,

with special attention given to the Vatican and the Holocaust; the role of religious motivation in rescue and resistance; theology after the Holocaust and the responses of the Christian churches to the Shoah; and representation of religion and the Holocaust in film, literature, memorial and religious practice.

HDS 3081 GOD'S NATIONS: RELIGION, NATIONALISM AND MODERNITY

Class Number: 19678 Course ID: 208357

Spring 2020

Jocelyne Cesari

W 1:00pm-3:00pm

The religious dimension of nationalism has been infrequently analyzed by historians and even less so by social scientists who have operated under the influence of theories of modernization and hence perceived nationalism and religion as incompatible. In the last three decades however, with the growth of religious claims in diverse national and international contexts, scholars have started to explore the connection between religion and nationalism. The course will address the historical evolution of religion and nationalism in Great Britain, France, Germany and the USA from the rise of the nation-state until today. It will also analyze the diffusion of the nation-state to non-western regions and its consequences on the politicization of religion in Turkey, India, and Israel as well as atypical forms of religious nationalism like ISIS. This broad scope of religions and national cultures will allow us to look at specific topics like state and religion relationships, religiously based political parties and movements, populism, anti-Semitism and islamophobia.

HIST 1049 NAZI GERMANY AND THE HOLOCAUST

Class Number: 16575 Course ID: 207696

Spring 2020

Brandon Bloch

TTh 1:30pm-2:45pm

This course examines the history of Nazi Germany and the Holocaust against the backdrop of global trajectories of antisemitism, colonialism, racial science, and economic crisis. Major themes include the rise of the Nazi Party in Germany; the sources of Nazi antisemitism; the role of race, gender, and disability in the Nazi state; the origins of World War II; the decision to annihilate European Jewry; collaboration and resistance during the Holocaust; the relationship between statelessness and genocide; and postwar legacies. Special attention will be paid to primary sources and methods of analyzing testimonies by Holocaust perpetrators and victims.

Course Notes: No prior college level History is required or assumed. Students seeking to fulfill their Social Sciences distribution requirement and freshmen welcome.

Related Sections: Discussion TTh 1:30 PM-2:45 PM

RELIGION 1400 INTRODUCTION TO THE NEW TESTAMENT

Class Number: 13360 Course ID: 113956

Spring 2020

Karen King

TTh 10:30am-11:45am

The course will address the questions: What is the New Testament? What work does the New Testament do? We will examine various approaches including scripturalizing, minority Biblical criticism, and historical criticism. Topics include teachings of/by/about Jesus, Jews and Christians, empire and colonialism, the roles of women, Roman and US slavery, the politics of storytelling and canon formation, heresy, and sexualities/masculinities/gender.

Course Notes: Offered jointly with the Divinity School as 1202. Additional hour to be arranged.

RELIGION 1525 THE HOLOCAUST: RELIGION AND REPRESENTATION

Class Number: 19609 Course ID: 135951

Spring 2020

Kevin Madigan

M 12:00pm-2:00pm

This undergraduate seminar (intended mainly for concentrators) will focus the issue of representation of religion in filmic, literary and memorial representations of the Holocaust. After a brief historical overview of the history of the Holocaust, we will turn our attention to the following issues and themes: philosophical and theological reflections on the issues of representation, especially on the limits of traditional media to represent extremes of human evil and suffering; literary texts and films that are recognized as classics in attempting to mediate the experience of the Holocaust; issues of memory and postmemory; the aestheticization of trauma; God and evil; and the reception of cultural artifacts in Germany, Israel and the United States, particularly among religious communities.



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